

Abstract**5 Bistable micromechanical switch, actuating method and corresponding
method for realizing the same**

10 A deformable suspension bridge (1) is attached to a substrate (3) by two legs
(7) arranged in such a manner as to transversally subdivide the bridge (1)
into a medial segment (8) arranged between the legs (7) and into two
outwardly projecting peripheral segments (9). Peripheral actuators (11) and
medial actuators (10) enable the peripheral segments (9) and the medial
segment (8) to be respectively and independently deformed perpendicularly
to the substrate (3). As a result, an electrical contact between a first
conductive element (5) formed on the substrate (3), while being situated
15 between the bridge (1) and substrate (3), and a second conductive element
(6), which is integrally secured to the underside of the bridge (1), can be
made or broken, the switch whereby taking two mechanically stable
positions.

20 (Figure 3)